



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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*Helping People  
Help the Land*

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July 31, 2006

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-6-39

SUBJECT: LTP – CRP EMERGENCY HAYING AND GRAZING PROVISIONS

Purpose. To provide additional guidance for 2006 CRP emergency haying and grazing provisions.

Expiration date. October 1, 2006

Designated Drought Counties

On Friday, July 21 the Farm Services Agency (FSA) approved provisions to immediately implement emergency grazing on CRP acres in Marshall, Pennington, Clearwater, East Polk, West Polk, and Red Lake Counties on practices CP-1, CP-2, CP4B, CP-4D, CP-10, CP-18C and CP-23. Since then Kittson, Roseau, and Mahnommen counties have also been designated as meeting the national CRP criteria for being adversely effected by drought conditions. No other counties are approved for these provisions at this time, however as dry conditions persist we expect additional counties to meet the criteria and additional approvals to be made.

Effective July 24<sup>th</sup> emergency haying was also authorized in these same designated counties on the same practices (except practice CP-23). **The CP-23 practice acres will not be open to emergency haying until August 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

CRP Fields Within 150 Mile Radius of a Designated Drought County

**Effective August 2<sup>nd</sup>** emergency haying and grazing is authorized in CRP fields within 150 mile radius of a designated drought county for practices CP-1, CP-2, CP-4B, CP-4D, CP-10 and CP-18.

All approved CRP acres must be hayed or grazed according to the provisions in a management plan. The emergency provisions have been agreed to on a state-wide basis and field staffs from FSA and NRCS are not authorized to modify any of the provisions.

Attached to this bulletin are two separate generic CRP Emergency Haying and Grazing Plans that must be agreed to and signed by all participating landowners. There are different generic plans for both the designated drought counties and those CRP fields not in a designated county but within the 150 mile radius. NRCS District Conservationists in counties effected by these emergency provisions including, those counties currently approved, those counties that become subsequently approved and those counties within 150 miles of a designated county, will provide copies of this generic plan to their FSA CED. FSA employees will be responsible to work with participating CRP contract holders to;

- Determine and approve those counties that meet the CRP drought designation criteria

- Determine and approve those CRP fields within the 150 mile radius of designated drought counties
- Complete the top portion of the plan including listing the producer's name and CRP contract and location information.
- Review the plan provisions with producers, any producer with a technical question related to these provisions will be referred to NRCS.
- Obtain the producer's signature on the plan and provide the original to NRCS and a copy to the producer.
- Inform producers that a 10% CRP payment reduction will apply to those acres where these provisions are implemented.

NRCS only has responsibility to provide technical assistance with these emergency provisions, for CRP contracts enrolled from sign-ups 29 – 33. However, due to the emergency drought conditions and the adverse impact on our state's livestock farmers, NRCS has also agreed to provide emergency haying and grazing technical assistance for all eligible CRP contracts.

Questions on the information in this bulletin should be directed to Paul Flynn, State Resource Conservationist at 651-602-7870.

WILLIAM HUNT  
State Conservationist

DIST: AO  
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Grazing Specialists